

Attorney's Docket No.: 12361-014002

B2 *del*
B1
47. (Amended) The device as in claim 46 [45], wherein a distance between two adjacent ladder units in said portion increase successively by a factor of 2.

del
C4
B3
58. (Amended) The method as in claim 57, wherein lengths of two different birefringent segments are different by a factor of 2^n , where n is a positive integer factor.

del
C5
B4
66. (Amended) The device as in claim 65, wherein lengths of two different birefringent segments are different by a factor of $2^{M-n}[2^n]$, where M and n are positive integers representing higher and lower order numbers of said two different birefringent segments, respectively, with $1 \leq n \leq (M-1)$, and $M \geq 2$ [n is a positive integer].

del
C6
B5
75. (Amended) The method as in claim 72, wherein lengths of two different birefringent segments are different by a factor of $2^{M-n}[2^n]$, where M and n are positive integers representing higher and lower order numbers of said two different birefringent segments, respectively, with $1 \leq n \leq (M-1)$, and $M \geq 2$ [n is a positive integer].

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79. (Amended) The method as in claim 78, wherein lengths of two different birefringent segments are different by a factor of $2^{M-n}[2^n]$, where M and n are positive integers representing higher and lower order numbers of said two different birefringent segments, respectively, with $1 \leq n \leq (M-1)$, and $M \geq 2$ [n is a positive integer].